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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/693,954	10/28/2003	Yoshikazu Fujita	723-1446	3806
23117	7590	01/12/2005	EXAMINER	
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 1100 N GLEBE ROAD 8TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22201-4714			RAHMJOO, MANUCHER	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2676	

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/693,954

Applicant(s)

FUJITA, YOSHIKAZU

Examiner

Mike Rahmjoo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/28/2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1, 6 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As per claim 1 line 16 recites "...to a storage area of the line drawing data storing means..." and line 19- 20 recites"... to a storage area of the line drawing data storing means...". It is not clear if the storage area, corresponding to same color data and different color data, is the same or different storage area. Further clarification is needed for to distinguish between the two storages.

Claims 6 and 11 have similar rejections.

Claims 2- 5 and 7- 10 are indefinite because they depend on indefinite antecedent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1- 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Suzuki (US Patent 5,974,175).

As per claims 1, 6 and 11 and as to the broadest reasonable interpretation by the examiner Suzuki teaches ink line area detecting means for detecting an area whose brightness is smaller than a predetermined value in an original image, as an ink line area see for example figure 3 block s1-3 and s1-4 for the first and subsequent contour (see figures 4- 9 for the dark lines with smaller brightness than the neighboring areas which is white); neighboring area detecting means for detecting a neighboring area of the ink line area, which surrounds the ink line area see for example figures 4-5 for the contours along with the neighboring areas that are detected and figure 3 wherein the contour and the object boundary having the contour is detected; outline area detecting means for detecting an outline portion of an image as an outline area, with respect to an area other than the ink line area and the neighboring area in the original image see for example figures 4- 9; line drawing data storing means for storing the line drawing data see for example figures 1- 2 for block 10; and color data writing means for writing color data to a storage area of the line drawing data storing means, which corresponds to the ink line area and the outline area, and writing different color data to a storage area of the line drawing data storing means, which corresponds to an area other than the ink line area and the outline area see for example column 5 lines 1- 15 for the image processing device 30 which performs necessary processing steps, such as color-changing (writing different color

data) in different areas with different outlines (figures 5 and 8) that is performed after object extraction and column 6 lines 10- 17 for the filling (writing) the inside and outside of the contour with prescribed image data which is then sent to display memory.

As per claims 2 and 7 the original image contains a plurality of pixels (picture **elements or pixels**) see for example column 8 line 8, and when the ink line area is included in a predetermined area surrounding a pixel to be processed in the original image, and the pixel to be processed is not included in the ink line area (picture elements to be processed that are inside of the frame edge and not the others) , the neighboring area detecting means detects the pixel to be processed as the neighboring area see for example figure 20 and column 16 lines 26- 32 .

As per claims 3 and 8 the ink line area detecting means detects, as the ink line area, a portion of an area where brightness is smaller than a predetermined value, such that the portion lies near the outline of the area see for example figure 3 for the boundary and contour detection and also figures 4- 9 wherein the contours have less brightness.

As per claims 4 and 9 the original image contains a plurality of pixels (picture **elements or pixels**) see for example column 8 line 8, and when an area other than the ink line area is included in a predetermined area surrounding a pixel to be processed included in an area whose brightness is smaller than a predetermined value, the ink line area detecting means detects the pixel to be processed as the ink line area see for example figures 19- 20 and column 16 lines 26- 32 wherein picture elements or the

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pixels of a contour to be processed that are inside of the frame edge, the area as labeled X2 in figure 20 which includes a detection range B31 as well.

As per claims 5 and 10 still image data extracting means for extracting arbitrary still image data from moving image data, wherein the line drawing data is generated using the still image data, which is extracted by the still image data extracting means, as the original image data see for example column 5 lines 38- 52 for Image data including a sequence of image frames (stationary images) contained in a motion picture which are later extracted.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure; US Patent 6,026,182, 6,590,521 and 5,859,891.

Inquiry

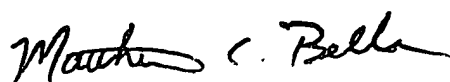
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Rahmjoo whose telephone number is (703) 305-5658. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30- 3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Bella can be reached on (703) 308- 6829. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872- 9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.

Mike Rahmjoo

January 10, 2005



MATTHEW C. BELLA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600